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## Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

## Yellowstone National Park's Mission

Preserved within Yellowstone National Park are Old Faithful and the majority of the world's geysers and hot springs. An outstanding mountain wildland with clean water and air, Yellowstone is home of the grizzly bear and wolf and free-ranging herds of bison and elk. Centuries-old sites and historic buildings that reflect the unique heritage of America's first national park are also protected. Yellowstone National Park serves as a model and inspiration for national parks throughout the world.

Photos this page ©C. Duckworth



*Pink Cone Geyser erupts alongside Firehole Lake Drive, 8 miles north of Old Faithful.*

## Welcome to the World's First National Park

Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872 to protect the unique geysers and other hydrothermal features. Visitors like yourself come to enjoy these unique features and to view the abundant wildlife. The park is the core of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem—one of the largest intact temperate zone ecosystems remaining on the planet. It's home to the spectacular Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River and Yellowstone Lake, the largest high elevation lake in North America.

### Protect yourself in Yellowstone by:

- ★ staying on all boardwalks and trails in hydrothermal areas
- ★ keeping children within reach in these areas
- ★ staying at least 25 yards away from all animals except . . .
- ★ staying at least 100 yards away from BEARS.

*For more safety tips, see page 2.*

### SPEED KILLS

more than 100 bears, elk, bison, deer, moose, wolves each year

**SLOW DOWN**  
and save a life

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## Help Protect Wildlife Near Roads

- ◆ Always expect animals to be on or near the road.
- ◆ Follow the speed limit.
- ◆ Increase caution at night and during wet or wintry conditions.

# Be Safe! and legal

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## Watch Wildlife Safely

Please remember that Yellowstone is not a zoo and the animals are not tame. **Do not approach any wildlife.** View them from the safety of your vehicle. **If an animal reacts to your presence, you are too close.**

Keep your distance and stay safe—and you will see more of an animal’s natural behavior and activity.

Each year park visitors are injured by wildlife when they approach animals too closely. **You must stay at least 100 yards (91 m) away from bears and at least 25 yards (23 m) away from all other animals—including bison, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, moose, wolves, and coyotes.**

**BISON** are unpredictable and dangerous; they weigh up to 2,000 pounds (900 kg) and sprint 30 miles per hour (48 kph). Visitors are injured every year.

**COYOTES** quickly learn habits like roadside feeding. This may lead to aggressive behavior toward humans and can increase the risk of the coyote being poached or hit by a vehicle. Do not feed any wildlife.

NPS/T.Madsen

**BEARS** live throughout the park. Be alert for tracks, do not approach carcasses, and avoid surprising bears in any location or situation.

Page 7, “Hiking and Camping in Bear Country,” provides information on precautions and bear encounters.

If precautions fail and you are charged, bear pepper spray is a good last defense. (Personal self-defense pepper spray is not effective.) Become familiar with bear pepper spray, read instructions, know its limitations. It must be instantly available, not in your pack. **Remember, carrying this spray is not a substitute for vigilance and good safety precautions.**

If you are injured by a bear (regardless of how minor), or if you observe a bear or bear tracks, report it to a park ranger as soon as possible. Someone’s safety may depend on it.

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## SCALDING WATER

**Beautiful but deadly:** Yellowstone’s hydrothermal features can kill you. Their waters are frequently near or above boiling. Their crust is thin, breaks easily, and often overlies scalding water.

- ◆ **Stay on boardwalks and designated trails.** They protect you and delicate formations.
- ◆ **Keep your children close to you at all times;** make sure they understand the danger.
- ◆ **Pets are prohibited** in hydrothermal areas.
- ◆ Swimming or bathing is prohibited in hydrothermal pools or streams where water flows entirely from a hydrothermal spring or pool.
- ◆ **Where swimming is allowed, swim at your own risk.** Yellowstone’s natural waters tend to be very hot or very cold, and immersion in extreme temperature water can be fatal. Thermal water can also harbor organisms that cause a fatal meningitis infection and Legionnaires’ disease. Exposing your head to thermal water by immersion, splashing, touching your face, or inhaling steam increases your risk of burns and infection.

## TOXIC GASES

**Toxic gases exist in Yellowstone.** Dangerous levels of hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, and carbon monoxide have been measured in some hydrothermal areas. **If you feel sick, leave the location immediately.**

## CAUTION: Wildlife Jams

*Habituated* wild animals learn people are not a threat and will tolerate people at close distances. Habituation occurs in many animals, including bears, bison, coyotes, elk, and bighorn sheep, especially along park roads. To protect yourself and wildlife, follow these guidelines when viewing or photographing roadside wildlife, whether you are alone or in a wildlife jam:

- ◆ Park in established turnouts and make sure your car is completely off the paved roadway.
- ◆ Make sure you put your vehicle into park, and engage your parking brake.
- ◆ If you exit your vehicle, stay near your vehicle so you can get inside if the bear or other wildlife approaches.
- ◆ Avoid being struck by a moving vehicle, do not stand in the roadway to view or photograph wildlife.
- ◆ Never surround, crowd, approach, or follow wildlife.
- ◆ Don’t block an animal’s line of travel.
- ◆ Do not run or make sudden movements—this may cause predators to attack.
- ◆ If other people in the area are putting you in danger, leave the scene and/or notify a park ranger.
- ◆ Do not ever feed wildlife.

**Fishing & Boating** Fishing, boating, and using float tubes require permits. Regulations and seasonal restrictions apply to fishing. See page 6 and the park fishing regulations.

**Backcountry Permits** Permits are required for overnight backcountry use. See page 7.

**Bicycling** Bicycling is permitted on established public roads, parking areas, and designated routes; it is not allowed on backcountry trails and boardwalks. For details, ask for the bicycling brochure at a visitor center. Even for short trips, wear safety gear, including helmet and high visibility clothing. Bicycle cautiously: Roads are narrow and winding with few shoulders. Motorists often do not see bicyclists or give them enough space on the road; some pass on hill crests and blind curves. Motor homes or vehicles towing trailers may have wide mirrors. Long distances exist between services and facilities. Elevations range from 5,300 to 8,860 feet (1,615–2,700 m).

**Falling Trees** Avoid areas with dead trees (snags). They may suddenly fall, especially on windy days.

**High Altitude** Most of the park is above 7,500 feet (2,275 m). Allow time to acclimate; be aware of your physical limitations; don’t overexert. Drink plenty of water to forestall dehydration from altitude and dry climate. Stop and rest often.

**Pets** Pets must be leashed. They are prohibited on all trails, in the backcountry, and in hydrothermal basins. Pets are not allowed more than 100 feet from a road or parking area. Leaving a pet unattended and/or tied to an object is prohibited.

## Other Rules and Safety Information

**Picnic Areas** Locations shown on the Official Map and Guide; those with fire grates are listed in a free handout available at visitor centers. Liquid or gas fuel stoves or self-contained charcoal grills may be used for cooking at all locations. Most picnic areas have vault toilets; only Madison has drinking water. Overnight camping is not allowed in picnic areas.

**Seat Belts** Each vehicle occupant must have a safety belt or child restraint system fastened when the vehicle is in motion.

**Stream Crossing** Check at local ranger stations for current stream conditions.

**Swimming** Yellowstone’s waters are typically very hot or very cold, and immersion in extreme temperature water can be fatal. Where swimming is allowed, swim at your own risk. See “Danger! Scalding Water” at left.

**Theft** Lock your vehicle; keep all valuables hidden; label all valuable property with your name, address, or identification number; report theft or vandalism to a ranger.

**Traffic** Most park roads are narrow, rough, and busy; some steep sections have sharp drop-offs. Ice and road damage occur year-round. Drive cautiously and courteously; you must use pullouts to observe wildlife or scenery and to allow other vehicles to pass. Watch for animals on the road, especially at night.

**Weapons** No firearms or weapons, including state-permitted concealed weapons, are allowed in Yellowstone. Unloaded firearms may be transported in a vehicle when the weapon is cased, broken down or rendered inoperable, and stored in a manner that prevents ready use. Ammunition must be placed in a separate compartment of the vehicle.

## Know These Numbers

25

= the number of YARDS you must stay away from all wildlife—except . . .

100

= the number of YARDS you must stay away from a bear

45

= the speed limit in the park unless otherwise posted

911

= the number to call in an emergency

## These Actions Are Illegal

- ◆ speeding (radar enforced)
- ◆ driving while intoxicated (open container law enforced)
- ◆ leaving detachable side mirrors attached when not pulling trailers
- ◆ traveling off-road by vehicle or bicycle
- ◆ improperly storing food
- ◆ violating camping regulations & rules
- ◆ having pets off leash or on trails and boardwalks
- ◆ littering
- ◆ swimming in hydrothermal pools
- ◆ traveling off boardwalks in hydrothermal areas
- ◆ removing or possessing natural (antlers, etc.) or cultural (artifacts) features
- ◆ violating fishing regulations
- ◆ feeding or approaching wildlife
- ◆ spotlighting elk, deer, or other wildlife (viewing animals with artificial light)
- ◆ calling in elk by imitating their calls or using buglers
- ◆ imitating wolf howls

Law enforcement rangers strictly enforce all park regulations to protect you and the park.

# Essential Yellowstone

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## Questions? Ask a ranger at these locations!

### Albright Visitor Center, Mammoth

Information, bookstore, and exhibits on wildlife and history. Films on the park, artist Thomas Moran, and the national park idea. Call 307-344-2263. Open daily, year-round. Through May 27: 9 AM–5 PM  
May 28 and thereafter: 8 AM–7 PM

### Canyon Visitor Center

Information and bookstore. Call 307-242-2550. Open daily beginning May 28: 8 AM–7 PM

### Fishing Bridge Visitor Center

Information, bookstore, and exhibits on the park’s birds and other wildlife. Call 307-242-2450. Open daily beginning May 28: 8 AM–7 PM

### Grant Visitor Center

Information, bookstore, exhibits, video on the role of fire in Yellowstone. Call 307-242-2650. Open daily beginning May 28: 8 AM–7 PM

### Junior Ranger Station (at Madison Information Station)

Open daily beginning June 4: 9 AM–5 PM

### Madison Information Station

Information and bookstore. Call 307-344-2821. Open daily beginning June 4: 9 AM–5 PM

### Museum of the National Park Ranger, Norris

Exhibits at historic soldier station trace development of the park ranger profession; video shown. Chat with former National Park Service employees volunteering here. Open daily beginning May 28: 9 AM–5 PM

### Norris Geyser Basin Museum & Information Station

Information, bookstore, and exhibits on the hydrothermal features of Yellowstone. Call 307-344-2812. Open daily beginning May 28: 10 AM–5 PM

### Old Faithful Visitor Center

Information, bookstore, and geyser eruption predictions. Award-winning film about hydrothermal features. Call 307-545-2750. Open daily beginning April 22. April 22–May 27: 9 AM–5 pm  
May 28 and thereafter: 8 AM–7 PM; information window until 8 PM

### West Thumb Information Station

Information and bookstore. Open daily beginning May 28: 9 AM–5 PM

### West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center

Information, publications. West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce staff available year-round, Monday–Friday, 8 AM–5 PM. NPS rangers available daily beginning April 22, 8 AM–4 PM; May 29 and thereafter, 8 AM–8 PM. Call 406-646-4403.

## Self-Guiding Trails

Stretch your legs on these self-guiding trails. Check at a visitor center for current conditions and to purchase a trail guide for 50¢. The guides are also available at each trail (except Forces of the Northern Range).

**Canyon Area** View the colorful Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River and the Upper and Lower Falls from overlooks; see why viewpoints are named Inspiration, Grandview, and Artist Point.

**Fort Yellowstone** Enjoy a walking tour of this historic site at Mammoth Hot Springs. Most buildings were constructed while the U.S. Army managed the park (1886–1918). They are now Yellowstone National Park headquarters.

**Fountain Paint Pot** View examples of the four types of hydrothermal features: geysers, hot springs, fumaroles, and mudpots. Eight miles (12.9 km) north of Old Faithful.

**Mammoth Hot Springs** Hot spring activity sculpts ever-changing travertine terraces. Walk through active and inactive areas and enjoy a scenic drive through the Upper Terraces.

**Mud Volcano Area** Discover turbulent and explosive mudpots, including Mud Volcano and Dragon’s Mouth. View—and smell—Sulphur Caldron. Located on the road between Lake and Canyon, 6 miles (9.6 km) north of Fishing Bridge Junction.

**Norris Geyser Basin** Explore the hottest, most dynamic geyser basin in the park, which includes Steamboat, the world’s tallest geyser, and Echinus, the world’s largest acidic geyser.

**Old Faithful** The world’s largest concentration of geysers is located in the Upper Geyser Basin. View Old Faithful then walk trails past hundreds of geysers and hot springs.

**West Thumb Geyser Basin** The boiling springs in this basin, including the famous Fishing Cone, discharge their waters into chilly Yellowstone Lake. The Absaroka Mountains provide a backdrop to this trail.

**Forces of the Northern Range** Volcanoes, glaciers, and fire shaped the landscape here, 8 miles (12.9 km) east of Mammoth Hot Springs. Exhibits reveal the secrets of the scenery and help identify the area’s plants and animals.

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You can see mudpots at Mud Volcano and Fountain Paint Pot

NPS photo

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# Tips & Highlights

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## Travel Tips

- ◆ Allow plenty of time to drive from place to place. Speed limits are 45 mph (73 kph) or lower; narrow, winding roads warrant slower speeds in many sections; and traffic is often heavy and slow.
- ◆ Allow extra time when passing through or detouring around road construction (see map on back page).
- ◆ Traffic is heavy from mid June to mid September with midday peaks.
- ◆ Allow extra time for crossing mountain passes; they are all over 8,000 ft (2427 m).
- ◆ Grand Loop Road passes major scenic attractions: 142 miles (229 km) total; Upper Loop, 70 miles (113 km); Lower Loop, 96 miles (155 km).

**Note:** Driving the full Grand Loop Road is not possible this year until mid to late August when Dunraven Pass reopens.

## Only One Day Here?

*Tips from Yellowstone's Rangers*

1. Drive to the Old Faithful area and walk around the geyser basin; drive to the Canyon area—stop at several overlooks and walk along part of the rim.
2. Add Hayden Valley to the above route—especially at the beginning or end of the day—to look for some of the park's large animals.
3. Visit the Upper Geyser Basin (Old Faithful, Biscuit Basin, Black Sand Basin); drive to Fountain Paint Pot to view mudpots; drive to Canyon and visit Artist Point. End your day at Fishing Bridge Museum on the shore of Yellowstone Lake.
4. Visit Old Faithful and one other hydrothermal area, such as Norris, West Thumb, or Mammoth Hot Springs.
5. Visit lesser-known features such as Artist Paint Pots south of Norris, Roaring Mountain north of Norris, Terrace Springs near Madison Junction, Firehole Lake Drive in the Lower Geyser Basin, or Natural Bridge near Bridge Bay.

### Consider one or two moderate day hikes.

Each major area of the park has several hikes suitable for brief excursions into the wilder side of Yellowstone. Consult the “Dayhike Sampler,” available for 25¢ at visitor centers.

### Two or More Days?

- ◆ Explore one area of the park in depth.
- ◆ Explore one theme, such as geology, in depth. For example, visit Mammoth Hot Springs to see travertine formations and view the sedimentary layers of Mount Everts, drive through glaciated terrain to Tower Fall or the Lamar Valley, then climb Mount Washburn to view the Yellowstone Caldera and evidence of glaciers.

NPS/Paco

## Geysers & Hot Springs

An unparalleled array of hydrothermal features—geysers, hot springs, mudpots, and steam vents—provide evidence of the active volcano beneath our feet. In the 50 miles between Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful, you'll see travertine terraces at Mammoth Hot Springs, acidic features at Norris Geyser Basin, mudpots and geysers at Fountain Paint Pot, a giant hot spring at Midway Geyser Basin, plus Biscuit and Black Sand basins near Old Faithful. West Thumb Geyser Basin is 17 miles east of Old Faithful; Mud Volcano is north of Yellowstone Lake.

## Grand Canyon

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River extends from south of Canyon Village north to Tower Junction. The most famous and spectacular section, including the Upper and Lower Falls, is seen from overlooks along the North and South Rim roads near the Canyon Village area. The northernmost extent of the canyon is visible from Tower Fall and Calcite Springs overlooks, south of Tower Junction.

### For more information:

- ◆ consult the Official Map and Guide you received at the entrance station
- ◆ consult rangers at the park's visitor centers & information stations
- ◆ ask for other free handouts about wildlife and other park topics
- ◆ purchase materials available in the educational bookstores
- ◆ stay in touch via [www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell)

## Highlights

The road between Tower Junction and Canyon Village goes over Dunraven Pass, the highest road in the park at 8,860 feet (2700 m). ***Due to road work, the road is closed from Chittenden Road south to Canyon, including the pass, until mid to late August.*** The road is open from Tower Junction to Chittenden Road and provides access to the Mount Washburn Trail. **(Check at a visitor center for road work updates.)**

## Lake Area

Yellowstone Lake is the largest high elevation lake (above 7,000 feet) in North America. It has 141 miles of shoreline and is more than 400 feet deep. With the Absaroka Mountains as a stunning backdrop, this area offers boating, fishing, hiking, and wildlife viewing, and hydrothermal features. (Fishing and boating require permits; see page 6.) You can visit several historic buildings, view a variety of hydrothermal activity, and see the Yellowstone River flow from the lake on its long journey. Four developed visitor areas lie along the lake's shores: Fishing Bridge, Bridge Bay, Lake

Village, and Grant Village.

## History

People have been visiting Yellowstone for more than 11,000 years. As recently as the 1800s, Native American tribes crossed the Yellowstone Plateau in search of buffalo, medicinal plants, and other resources. Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872, before any surrounding territories had become states. You can visit historic sites such as Fishing Bridge Museum, Norris Geyser Basin Museum, Obsidian Cliff, Old Faithful Inn and Historic District, Roosevelt Lodge Historic District, and Fort Yellowstone at Mammoth Hot Springs (you can take a self-guiding tour around the fort).

## Wildlife

Yellowstone is home to a variety and abundance of wildlife unparalleled in the lower 48 states. Please use pullouts when viewing wildlife and remember that the animals are wild. Do not disturb them in any way. You will be rewarded by seeing more of their natural activities and discovering how they live in the wild.

## Save On Park Entrance Fees



**The National Parks Pass** provides a way to save money when visiting national parks. For one annual fee of \$50, you can enter all National Park System areas. You receive a great value and you also support your favorite national parks. A full 70% of the proceeds from the sales of passes at Yellowstone will go directly

to projects that help visitors experience the area. The remaining proceeds go to a national fund that supports projects at any of the national parks in the system. To obtain your pass, stop by one of Yellowstone's entrance stations, or purchase the pass online at [www.national-parks.org](http://www.national-parks.org) or call toll-free: 1-888-GO-PARKS (1-888-467-2757). For an additional \$15, you can upgrade your National Park Pass to a Golden Eagle Pass, which provides admission to all national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other federal fee areas. (Neither pass is good for user or parking fees, such as at Mount Rushmore.)

Private, noncommercial automobile	\$20 (7 days, both Yellowstone and Grand Teton)
Individual motorcycle	\$15 (7 days, both parks)
Single entry (foot, bike, ski, etc.)	\$10 (7 days, both parks)
Annual Pass, both parks	\$40 (valid one year from date of purchase)
National Parks Pass	\$50 (valid one year from date of purchase for entrance fees at National Park Service areas)
Golden Eagle Pass	\$65 (valid one year from date of purchase at most federal fee collection areas)
Golden Age Pass	\$10 (one-time fee for lifetime pass—available to those citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. 62 years of age and older)
Golden Access Pass	Free (available to those citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. who have been determined to be blind or permanently disabled)

**Remember to keep your admission receipt to re-enter the park.**

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## Explore the Park with the Yellowstone Association Institute

The Institute is a nonprofit field school operated in partnership with the National Park Service. We provide visitors with outstanding opportunities to experience Yellowstone in a small group with an expert instructor. We offer five types of educational programs:

**Lodging and Learning** is an award-winning series of educational programs based at park hotels. Participants explore the park with an Institute naturalist and return to the hotels for lodging, meals, and evening programs. Spring and summer programs include:

- ◆ Spring Wolf and Bear Discovery—three days observing and learning about wolves and bears during field trips to the Lamar Valley and other wildlife hot spots.
- ◆ Spring Wildlife Discovery—three days observing and learning about bears, bison, and baby animals during field trips in the Hayden Valley and around Yellowstone Lake.
- ◆ Yellowstone for Families—four days exploring the park and enjoying activities such as wildlife watching, animal tracking, painting, and photography with your children.
- ◆ Trails Through Yellowstone—four days of interpretive hikes in diverse landscapes from the geyser basins around Old Faithful to the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River.

**Field Seminars** are short courses that provide a closer look at specific subjects, from nature writing to wolf biology. College professors, research scientists, park staff, and other experts teach these programs. Courses are based at the Institute's Buffalo Ranch Field Campus in the Lamar Valley and throughout the park.

**Backcountry Courses** are wilderness experiences that allow participants to backpack to remote areas of the park under the guidance of professional outdoor leaders. Guest experts accompany each group to teach about specific subjects such as bear management or park history.

**Personal Ed-Ventures** are private natural history tours and hiking trips designed for families and other small groups. A flat fee of \$350 for up to seven people includes a full day of instruction plus in-park transportation and the use of professional spotting scopes.

**Group Programs** are field-based educational programs for your college, environmental organization, or other group of eight or more people. Our program manager will be glad to discuss program and facility options.

To obtain information or register for a course, contact the Institute registrar at 307-344-2294 or [registrar@YellowstoneAssociation.org](mailto:registrar@YellowstoneAssociation.org). Complete information for all Institute programs is available online at [www.YellowstoneAssociation.org](http://www.YellowstoneAssociation.org).

[www.YellowstoneAssociation.org](http://www.YellowstoneAssociation.org)

Yellowstone Association/Marilyn Alkire

## Especially for Children

### Join the Yellowstone Junior Rangers

Children between the ages of 5 and 12—you are invited to become Junior Rangers! Stop by any park visitor center for details on how you can learn more about Yellowstone. Purchase the official Junior Ranger newspaper for \$3 and complete the program requirements. As Junior Rangers you will be awarded arrowhead-shaped patches—a wolf track patch if you are between the ages of 5 and 7, a bear track if you are between 8 and 12, or a winter patch if you complete the winter Junior Ranger program offered December through March.

### Live in Yellowstone!

Teachers, how would you like to spend 4 or 5 days and nights in Yellowstone with your 4th–8th grade students? We invite you, your students, and parent chaperones to participate in *Expedition: Yellowstone!*—our long-standing, curriculum-based residential program. Through field investigations, hikes, creative dramatics, journal writing, and group discussions, students learn about the natural and cultural history of the park and the current issues affecting the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

The park charges a nominal fee to cover faculty salaries and instructional supplies. Financial aid is available for qualifying students through the Yellowstone Park Foundation's *Expedition: Yellowstone!* scholarship fund. For more information, please write: *Expedition: Yellowstone!* Coordinator, PO Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190. The coordinator will work with you to tailor an itinerary for your students that best meets their educational needs.



### Electronic Field Trips—Windows Into Wonderland

Attention middle school students! Climb aboard our electronic bus and look through its *Windows Into Wonderland!* Your passport to adventure is [www.windowsintowonderland.org](http://www.windowsintowonderland.org).

This spring, *Windows Into Wonderland* is featuring “Wolves of Yellowstone: Legacy, Legend, and Recovery.” Go online and share the fascination that two children have with wolves. Listen as Grady and Aspen recite wolf legends to their grandparents. Attend a “wolf talk” with the children, and hear the story of gray wolf—from eradication to restoration in Yellowstone National Park. This eTrip is fund funded by *Eyes on Yellowstone* which is made possible by Canon.\*

Later this spring, join us on an electronic investigation of geysers. Discover what ingredients are necessary to make a geyser and what factors could contribute to changes in their functions. Could Old Faithful could ever stop being faithful? Find out in “Geyser Quest,” premiering May 11, 2005. This program is funded by the National Science Foundation through a generous grant to the Yellowstone Park Foundation.

Journey through earlier eTrips to learn about Yellowstone's natural and cultural resources. Topics include Yellowstone's fire ecology, history, geology, wildlife, microorganisms, and more!

\**Eyes on Yellowstone* is made possible by Canon represents the largest corporate donation for wildlife conservation in Yellowstone National Park.

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## YOUR FEE DOLLARS AT WORK

Yellowstone National Park participates in the Interagency Recreational Fee Demonstration Program. Begun in 1996 as an experiment, the program authorizes participating parks to keep 80% of the fees collected. These funds have been, and will continue to be, used for maintenance, repair projects, public service programs, signs, and natural and historical resource preservation. The remaining 20% of the revenue is generally distributed to parks that do not collect fees, but have similar needs, and to fund other servicewide initiatives. Congress has extended this program until December 31, 2005. The program is being continually evaluated, and may be extended again.

### Why the emphasis on recreational use fees?

Managing public lands requires a major financial investment, which comes mostly from general tax revenues. Recreational use fees assure that actual users pay an increased share of operational costs, and these fees are applied to projects at the area where they were collected.

### The Recreational Fee Demonstration Program:

- ◆ Allows a significant portion of the fees collected at a public area to be spent directly on behalf of that area.
- ◆ Encourages each agency to develop fair and equitable fee collection programs, whether the public areas are large or small, urban or wilderness, natural or historical.
- ◆ Promotes the collection of fees where such fees can cover the cost of a new activity. In some cases, visitors will have to pay for activities that previously were free.

### Your Fee Dollars at Work in Yellowstone

- ◆ Replacement of boat launch ramps at Grant and Lewis lakes.
- ◆ Reconstruction of the Canyon Visitor Center, including new exhibits about the park's geology.
- ◆ Repair and replacement of signs and exhibits.
- ◆ Studies on pronghorn ecology and other wildlife and natural resources.
- ◆ Preservation of rare books, journals, and manuscripts.





# Camping & Fishing

## Campgrounds

	Dates	Fees	Sites	Elev (ft)	Features	RV sites
Bridge Bay*	5/27–9/18	\$17	432	7,800	A, F, DS, G	call for availability & reservations
Canyon*	6/10–9/11	\$17	272	7,900	A, F, S/L, G	call for availability & reservations
Fishing Bridge RV*	5/20–10/2	\$33	346	7,800	F, S/L, DS, G	call for availability & reservations
Grant Village*	6/21–10/2	\$17	425	7,800	A, F, S/L, DS, G	call for availability & reservations
Madison*	5/6–10/30	\$17	277	6,800	A, F, DS, G	call for availability & reservations
Indian Creek	6/10–9/19	\$12	75	7,300	V	10@ 40'; 35 @ 30'; pull-through
Lewis Lake	6/17–11/6	\$12	85	7,800	V	a few @ 40'
Mammoth	All year	\$14	85	6,200	A, F, G	all pull through
Norris	5/20–9/26	\$14	116	7,500	F, G	2 @ 50' (signed); 5 @ 30'
Pebble Creek	6/3–9/26	\$12	36	6,900	V	some long pull-throughs
Slough Creek	5/27–10/31	\$12	29	6,250	V	14 @ 30', walk through first to assess sites beyond #16
Tower Fall	5/20–9/26	\$12	32	6,600	V	all @ 30' or less; has hairpin curve
*Sites you can reserve; price doesn't include tax.				A Accessible sites available	S/L Pay showers/laundry nearby	
				F Flush toilets	DS Dump station	
				V Vault toilets	G Generators OK 8 AM–8 PM	

### First-Come, First-Served

Seven campgrounds are operated by the National Park Service: Indian Creek, Lewis Lake, Mammoth, Norris, Pebble Creek, Slough Creek, and Tower Fall. You cannot reserve these sites.

### Reservable Sites

You can reserve a site at the five campgrounds operated by Xanterra Parks & Resorts, indicated by \* on the chart. For same-day reservations, call 307-344-7311 or ask at lodging activities desks.

For future reservations, call 307-344-7311 or write Xanterra Parks & Resorts®, P.O. Box 165, YNP, WY 82190; [www.TravelYellowstone.com](http://www.TravelYellowstone.com).

Fishing Bridge RV Park is for hard-sided vehicles only (no tents or tent trailers are allowed).

### Overflow Camping

No overflow camping exists in Yellowstone National Park. Camping or overnight vehicle parking in pullouts, parking areas, picnic grounds, or any place other than a designated campground are not permitted. Camping is often available in neighboring communities and public lands outside the park (see page 13).

### Check-in & Check-out

Check-in any time, but sites may not be available before 10 AM. Registration desks at reservable campgrounds are staffed 7 AM –10 PM, Memorial Day–Labor Day; 8 AM–9 PM, Labor Day–Memorial Day.

Check-out time is 10 AM.

## Permits and Fees

### Permits

**Fishing** You must have a permit to fish in Yellowstone. Anglers 16 years of age and older are required to purchase a permit: 3 days—\$15; 7 days—\$20; annual—\$35. Anglers 12–15 years of age are required to obtain a non-fee permit; those 11 years and younger may fish without a permit but must be supervised by an adult who knows the regulations. Permits are available at all ranger stations, visitor centers, and Yellowstone General Stores. **State fishing licenses are not valid in Yellowstone National Park.** *If you catch a lake trout in Yellowstone Lake or its tributaries—including the Yellowstone River—you must kill the fish.*

**Boats & Float Tubes** You must have a permit to use boats and float tubes; few park waters are open to them. Obtain these permits in person at: South Entrance, Grant Village Backcountry Office, and Bridge Bay Ranger Station. Non-motorized boating permits only are available at the Canyon, Mammoth, and Old Faithful backcountry offices, Bechler Ranger Station, and West and Northeast Entrances. You must have a Coast Guard approved “wearable” personal flotation device for each person on board.

### Fishing Season

Yellowstone’s fishing season generally begins on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and continues through the first Sunday of November. **Exceptions:** Yellowstone Lake opens June 15; Yellowstone Lake’s tributary streams open July 15; Yellowstone River and its tributaries between Canyon and Yellowstone Lake open July 15. Refer to park fishing regulations or the park

### Length of Stay

Camping is limited to 14 days June 15–September 15 and to 30 days the rest of the year; no limit at Fishing Bridge.

### Discounts

Holders of Golden Age and Golden Access passes receive approximately a 50% discount on camping fees, except at Fishing Bridge, where no discounts apply.

### RV Length

Know your total vehicle length—total of trailer and towing vehicle or total of motorhome and towed vehicle. Use the total length to determine which campground can best accommodate your rig.

### Group Camping

Group camping is available at Madison, Grant, and Bridge Bay from late May through closing date for organized groups with a designated leader such as youth or educational groups. Fees range from \$48–78 per night, depending on group size. Reservations are required and can be made by writing Xanterra Parks & Resorts, P.O. Box 165, YNP, WY 82190 or by calling 307-344-5437.

### Quiet Hours

Each visitor deserves to hear the natural sounds of this beautiful environment. Respect this by complying with the law: quiet hours, 8 PM–8 AM (10 PM–7 AM at Fishing Bridge). No generators, loud audio devices, or other noise disturbances will be allowed during this time. Generators are only permitted in seven campgrounds (see chart).

### WARNING: Food & Odors Attract Bears

The future of bears and the safety of you and others depend on you. The following items—new, clean, dirty, empty, or full—may not be left outside, in tents, or in tent trailers at any time, day or night, unless in immediate use:

water & beverage containers • cooking, eating, drinking utensils • stoves & grills • coolers & ice chests • trash • food • cosmetics & toiletries • pet food & bowls • pails, buckets, & wash basins

website for additional information:  
[www.nps.gov/yell/planvisit/todo/fishing/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yell/planvisit/todo/fishing/index.htm)

### Fishing Regulations

**Park fishing regulations are available at all ranger stations, visitor centers, or general stores.**

In Yellowstone, wildlife takes precedence over humans as consumers of fish. All fish are wild (there is no stocking), so sufficient adult fish must remain to reproduce and maintain populations and to assure genetic diversity. These facts require both a philosophical and literal distinction between recreational angling and consuming fish. In Yellowstone, angling is based on fishing for native species of wild trout in a natural setting.

Fishing regulations in Yellowstone National Park have evolved as ongoing research reveals population trends and interrelationships with the rest of the Yellowstone ecosystem. Increasing numbers of anglers have also influenced the development of regulations by their impact on certain species and aquatic habitats. As of 2001, you must release all native sport fish: cutthroat trout, Arctic grayling, and mountain whitefish.

### Non-Toxic Fishing

Yellowstone National Park has implemented a fishing program using non-toxic tackle. Fishing tackle such as leaded split-shot sinkers, weighted jigs (lead molded to a hook), and soft lead-weighted ribbons for nymph fishing, are no longer allowed. Only non-toxic alternatives are allowed to accompany these types of fishing tackle. For more information, contact the Yellowstone Center for Resources, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

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# Hiking & Backpacking

Spring 2005

7

*Your safety is not guaranteed.* Approximately 1,000 miles (1,609 km) of trails are available for hiking in Yellowstone's backcountry. Visiting wilderness means experiencing the land on its terms. If you choose to explore and enjoy the natural wonders of Yellowstone, be prepared for any situation. Read these rules and guidelines and consult a ranger before your trip.

## Backcountry Rules

Always talk to a park ranger before you begin an overnight trip.

### Permits & Reservations

Permits are not required for day hiking, but hikers are encouraged to check in at a ranger station for vital safety information. Backcountry use permits are required for all overnight trips and must be obtained in person at a ranger station not more than 48 hours in advance of the first date of the trip. Campers may reserve campsites for future trips in person or by mail for a \$20 fee. To make reservations, check at a ranger station or write the Backcountry Office, P.O. Box 168, YNP, WY 82190.

For safety and resource concerns, especially regarding bears, camping is allowed in designated campsites only. Each campsite has limits for the number of people and stock allowed. The maximum stay at any single campsite varies from 1 to 3 nights. To obtain detailed information, check at a ranger station.

### Prohibited

Firearms, weapons, pets, traps and nets, motorized equipment, and any type of wheeled vehicle (except wheelchairs) are prohibited in the backcountry. Wheelchairs and some types of service animals are allowed. Due to personal safety concerns, please contact the backcountry office for further information before taking a wheelchair or service animal into the backcountry.

### Campfires

Campfires are permitted only in established fire pits. Burn only dead-and-down wood. Wood and ground fires are not allowed in some campsites. Your fire must be attended at all times and be completely extinguished before you leave.

### Pack It In—Pack It Out

You must carry all refuse out of the backcountry, including items partly burned in fire pits (foil, tin, glass, etc.).

### Sanitation

Bury human waste 6 to 8 inches (15–20 cm) below ground and a minimum of 100 feet (30 m) from water. Dispose of waste water at least 100 feet (30 m) from water or a campsite. Do not pollute lakes, ponds, rivers, or streams by washing yourself, clothing, or dishes in them.

### Should You Drink the Water?

Even though clear lake and stream water may look, smell, and taste good, Giardia and other bacterial contaminants may be present. Drinking untreated water may lead to intestinal infection. Before drinking water from lakes and streams, either filter it with a good commercial filter, treat it with a chemical treatment such as iodine or chlorine, or boil it at least one minute. Never drink water from a hot spring.

### Weather

Yellowstone's weather is unpredictable. A sunny warm day may become fiercely stormy with wind, rain, sleet, and, sometimes snow. Lightning is common; get off water or beaches and stay away from ridges, exposed places, and isolated trees. Without adequate clothing and gear, an easy day hike or boat trip can turn into a battle for survival. Exposure to wind, rain, or cold can result in hypothermia. This rapid loss of body heat can cause death if not treated. Early warning signs include

shivering, slurred speech, memory lapses, drowsiness, and exhaustion. Cold water is a special hazard to anglers and boaters. Get into dry clothes and drink warm fluids at the first signs of hypothermia.

### Stock Use

Overnight stock (horses, mules, burros, and llamas) use is not permitted prior to July 1 due to forage conditions and/or wet trail conditions. Horses are not allowed in front country campgrounds. **All equine stock crossing a state line while in the park must have proof of a negative Coggins test dated within the last 12 months.**

### Stream Crossings

Fording a stream can be hazardous, especially during spring snowmelt or high water. Check at local ranger stations for current trail and stream conditions.

### Falling Trees

Avoid areas with large numbers of dead trees (snags), which may suddenly fall—especially on windy days.

### Trails

Trail conditions are highly variable. Some can be dry, while others are muddy or blocked by high river crossings or snow. Some are closed to stock. Check at a visitor center or backcountry office for current trail conditions.

Orange metal tags on trees and posts mark trails, but may be sparse in some areas. Off-trail travel is difficult because of the terrain and the number of downed trees. Carry a map and compass, and know how to use both.

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*For a safe hike in grizzly country—which is all of Yellowstone National Park—your group should inquire at a backcountry office about bear management areas, current bear sightings, and precautions you should follow, such as those listed below.*

## Hiking & Camping in Bear Country

Although the risk of an encounter with a bear is low, your safety is not guaranteed. Minimize your risks by following the guidelines below.

### A Fed Bear Is a Dead Bear

Do not leave packs containing food unattended, even for a few minutes. Do not drop your pack if a bear is close by (see below). Allowing a bear to obtain human food even once often results in the bear becoming aggressive about obtaining such food in the future. Aggressive bears present a threat to human safety and eventually may be destroyed or removed from the park.

### While Hiking

Make bears aware of your presence on trails by making loud noises, shouting, or singing. Hike in groups and use caution where vision is obstructed. Do not hike after dark. Avoid carcasses; bears often defend this source of food.

### If You Encounter a Bear

Do not run. Bears can run 30 mph (48 kph), or 44 feet/second (13 m/second), which is faster than Olympic sprinters. Running may elicit an attack from an otherwise non-aggressive bear. If the bear is unaware of you, keep out of sight and detour behind and downwind of the bear. If the bear is aware of you and is nearby but has not acted aggressively, slowly back away.

Do not drop your pack! This teaches bears a way to obtain human foods and often means the bear must be removed.

Tree climbing to avoid bears is popular advice, but not practical in many circumstances. All black bears, all grizzly cubs,

and some adult grizzlies can climb trees. Plus, running to a tree may provoke an otherwise uncertain bear to chase you.

### If a Bear Approaches or Charges You

Do not run. Some bears will bluff their way out of a threatening situation by charging, then veering off or stopping abruptly at the last second. Bear experts generally recommend standing still until the bear stops and then slowly backing away. If you are attacked, try to lie on the ground completely flat on your stomach. Spread your legs and clasp your hands over the back of your neck. Do not drop your pack! It will protect your back.

### When Camping

Never camp in an area that has obvious evidence of bear activity such as digging, tracks, scat, or where animal carcasses are present.

Odors attract bears. Avoid carrying or cooking odorous foods or other products. Keep a clean camp; do not cook or store food in your tent. All food, garbage, or other odorous items used for preparing or cooking food must be secured from bears. Hang all such items at least 10 feet (3 m) above the ground and at least 4 feet (1.2 m) out from tree trunks. Treat all odorous products such as soap, deodorant, or toiletries in the same manner as food.

Sleep a minimum of 100 yards (91m) from where you hang, cook, and eat your food. Keep your sleeping gear clean and free of food odor. Don't sleep in the same clothes worn while cooking and eating; hang those clothes in plastic bags.



### Leave No Trace is . . . .

a national education program promoting responsible outdoor recreation and stewardship of our public lands through outdoor skills and ethics. The National Park Service is proud to be a partner of Leave No Trace and urges visitors to learn more about how they can minimize recreation impacts and help protect Yellowstone's precious wildlands for future enjoyment. For more information visit a backcountry office in the park or go online to the Leave No Trace website at [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org).



# Old Faithful & Other Hot Topics

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*Old Faithful (above) is a cone geyser, erupting in a narrow column; Great Fountain Geyser (right, in the Lower Geyser Basin) is a fountain geyser, erupting broadly and in several directions.*

## How Geysers Work

Geysers are hot springs with narrow spaces in their plumbing, usually near the surface. These constrictions prevent water from circulating freely to the surface where heat would escape. The deepest circulating water can exceed the surface boiling point (199°F/93°C).

The surrounding pressure also increases with depth, much as it does with depth in the ocean. Increased pressure exerted by the enormous weight of the overlying rock and water prevents the water from vaporizing.

As the water rises, steam forms. Bubbling upward, steam expands as it nears the top of the water column until the bubbles are too large and numerous to pass freely through the constrictions. At a critical point, the confined bubbles actually lift the water above, causing the geyser to splash or overflow. This decreases pressure on the system, and violent boiling results. Tremendous amounts of steam force water out of the vent, and the eruption begins.

Water is expelled faster than it can enter the geyser’s plumbing system, and the heat and pressure gradually decrease. The eruption stops when the water reservoir is exhausted or when the gas bubbles diminish enough to be able to rise without ejecting the water.

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Many myths exist about Old Faithful, the world’s most famous geyser (shown at left). The lists below can help you sort the facts from myths.

Myths	Facts
✗ No one can predict Old Faithful any-more.	✓ Its eruption length and height, and the time between eruptions varies from day to day and year to year.
✗ It is so predictable, you can set your watch by its eruption.	✓ As of March 2005, the eruption lasts 1½ to 5 minutes; the average interval between eruptions is 92 minutes.
✗ It is the only predictable geyser.	✓ Old Faithful’s height ranges from 106 feet to more than 180 feet, averaging 130 feet.
✗ It is the most predictable geyser.	✓ Its average eruption length, height, and interval will change again—often as a result of an earthquake.
✗ It erupts every hour on the hour.	✓ 3,700 to 8,400 gallons of water are expelled per eruption, depending on the length of eruption.
✗ Its eruption is not as high as it used to be.	✓ Just prior to eruption, water temperature at the vent is 204°F (95.6°C).
✗ Its eruption lasts less time than it used to.	✓ It’s one of more than 300 geysers in Yellowstone.
✗ Park rangers can control the eruption of Old Faithful.	✓ Old Faithful is a cone geyser, a type of geyser that usually erupts in a narrow jet of water from a cone. Fountain geysers, such as Grand (also in the Upper Geyser Basin), generally shoot water out in various directions from a pool.

Geysers are dynamic and constantly evolving. They respond to small, natural changes in their plumbing systems, water temperature, dissolved gas and mineral content of thermal water, amount of water, amount of heat, changes in pressure, and other factors. Geysers are also affected by natural events in Yellowstone such as frequent earthquakes.

The average interval between Old Faithful’s eruptions increased after the 1959 Hebgen Lake Earthquake, centered 12 miles northwest of the park’s west entrance. It increased again after the 1983 Borah Peak Earthquake, centered in Idaho. In 1998, another small earthquake lengthened the interval again; later, a swarm of earthquakes further increased the interval.

Occasionally, waiting for Old Faithful’s eruptions can stretch beyond the predicted time. Think of it this way: you’ve got time now to meet other visitors, read about the park, or take a much-needed rest. So relax and enjoy the time you spend with the world’s most famous geyser.

Photos from NPS collections

## Living in the Hot Water

Look closely at the runoff channels of the hot springs and geysers—you may see insects active in the hot water. They feed on thermophiles (heat-loving microorganisms) that thrive in the hot water. The mats and streamers you see are actually thermophile communities containing millions of organisms and many different species. Thermophiles cause many of the colors you see in Yellowstone’s hydrothermal features; they are also key in creating mudpots.



# Ten Years of Wolves

Spring 2005

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Visionaries began working on wolf restoration in the middle of the 20th century. Their belief, that wolves are essential to a healthy ecosystem, has been proven by scientific research at Yellowstone.

**1944** Dec. 1: Aldo Leopold proposes the wolf be restored to Yellowstone National Park.

**1973** Dec. 28: The Endangered Species Act is signed into law, laying the foundation for wolf reintroduction.

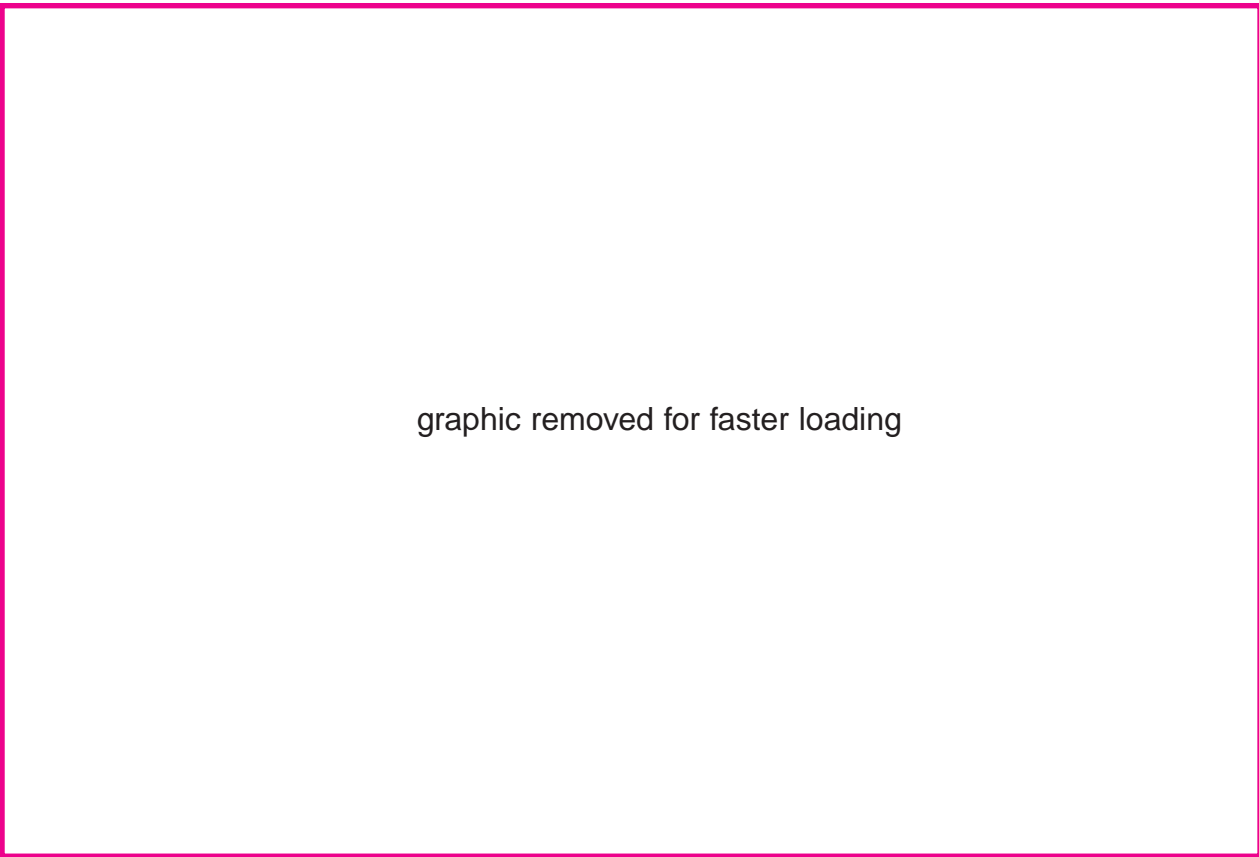
**1995** Jan. 12: The first wolves arrive in Yellowstone.

**1995** March 21: the first wolves are released from pens into Yellowstone.

**1998** Yellowstone wolves form the Gros Ventre pack in Grand Teton National Park.

**2003** November 5: Wolf observers report seeing wolves for 1,000 days in a row. This streak continued through 2004.

**2004** Jan. 12: Within one week, wolves #42 and 41—sisters—died. They were the last of the wolves originally restored to Yellowstone.



January 12, 1995: Scientists brought the first wolves into the park, through Roosevelt Arch (above), beginning the restoration of a predator gone since the 1930s. Local residents lined the road to watch the wolves arrive. Ten years later, more than 170 wolves in 16 packs call the Yellowstone area home, and thousands of people see them each year.

Photos from NPS collections

**Size:** 26–36 inches high at the shoulder, 4–6 feet long from nose to tail tip; males weigh 100–130 pounds, females weigh 80–110 pounds.

**Home range:** 18–540 square miles; varies with pack size, food, season.

**Lifespan:** Typically live 3–4 years in wild.

**Colors:** Gray and black are common in Yellowstone; white or almost white is very rare.

**Breeding:** Mate in February; give birth to average of five pups in April after a gestation period of 63 days; young emerge at 10–14 days; pack remains at the den for 3–10 weeks unless disturbed.

**Mortality:** Human-caused death is the highest mortality factor for wolves; the leading natural cause is wolves killing other wolves.

## Wolves and the Future

Some scientists think wolves are central to the proper functioning of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Their return may have triggered changes affecting every part of the ecosystem. Such changes may take decades to see and understand.

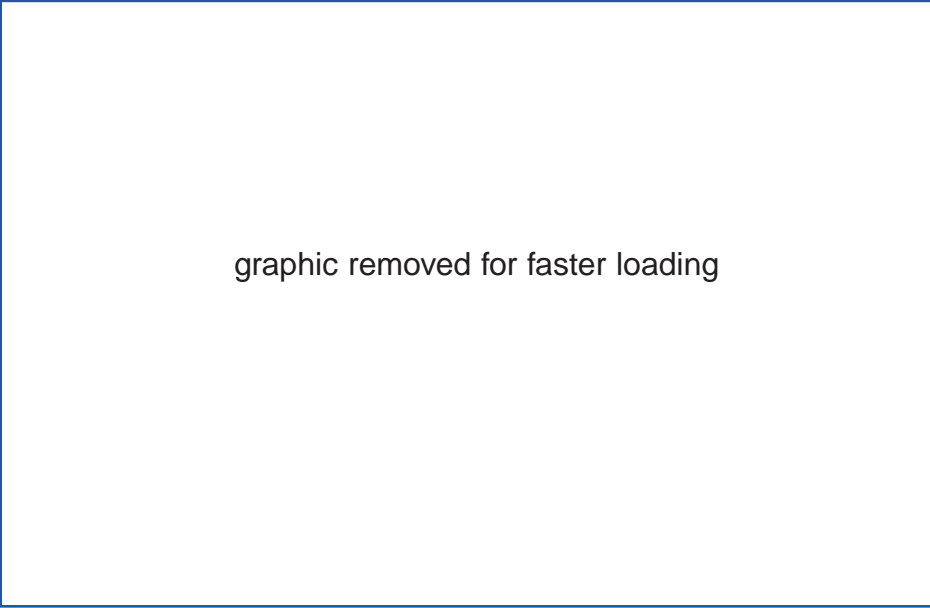
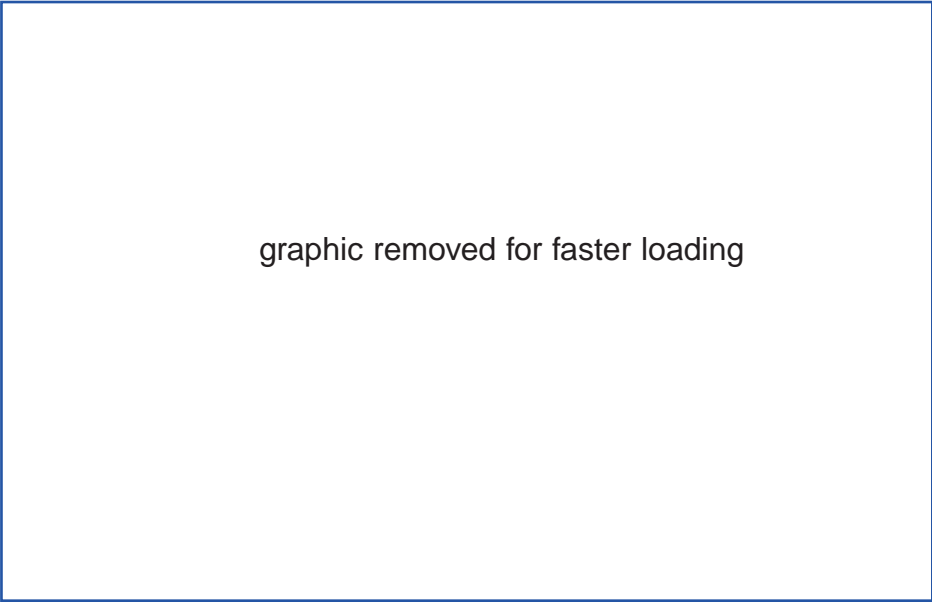
Meanwhile, states that surround Yellowstone are developing their own plans to manage wolves.

In the future, wolves might be removed from the federal list of endangered species—a sign of successful restoration.

## Food for the Masses

- ◆ In winter, wolves eat primarily elk—mostly calves and female elk more than 14 years old.
- ◆ In summer, wolves add mule deer and smaller animals to their diet.
- ◆ Wolves sometimes kill bull elk and bison.
- ◆ Scientists know of only one bighorn sheep killed by wolves in ten years.
- ◆ A wolf’s stomach can hold about 20 pounds of meat. So when a pack kills a 500-pound female elk, they can easily fill their bellies and leave a lot of meat for scavengers.
- ◆ Ravens arrive at a kill in less than two minutes; and often more than two dozen will wait around until the wolves are done.
- ◆ Other scavengers include magpies, eagles (both bald and golden), and coyotes.
- ◆ Grizzly bears can take over wolf kills, chasing off the wolves before they finish eating.

Today, wolf packs travel throughout Yellowstone.



Released! A wolf dashes out of the traveling crate into a release pen. There, the wolves became acquainted with each other and with Yellowstone. They seldom saw humans, even though scientists watched them from afar and brought them food.

## Wolf Watching

- ◆ More than 150,000 people have seen wolves in Yellowstone.
- ◆ Approximately 20,000 people a year see a wolf in Yellowstone.
- ◆ Wolf enthusiasts bring in millions of dollars annually to the local communities.

## For More Information

[www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell)

“Yellowstone 2005,” annual calendar by the Yellowstone Association, featuring wolves this year

Books and other publications available through the Yellowstone Association at its educational bookstores in visitor centers and at [www.YellowstoneAssociation.org](http://www.YellowstoneAssociation.org)

# Friends of Yellowstone

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## You Can Help Preserve and Protect Yellowstone

In our increasingly crowded and developed world, Yellowstone National Park provides a source of refuge and renewal for those who enter its quiet places. The park’s magnificent wilderness areas offer a glimpse of what our continent was like when humans first gazed in wonder upon its steaming geysers, thundering waterfalls, and abundant wildlife. However, Yellowstone exists today only because generations who came before us understood its value and made its preservation a priority.

Because so many visitors who love Yellowstone want to help ensure that it stands wild and unimpaired for our future, two separate organizations have been established. The Yellowstone Park Foundation and the Yellowstone Association work in partnership with the National Park Service and each other to provide a means for visitors to contribute to Yellowstone’s preservation. Please help us protect and preserve this national treasure. Your contribution to either organization will designate you as a true friend of Yellowstone; contributors of \$1,000 or more will have their names displayed on the park’s Honor Wall at Old Faithful, receiving special recognition as stewards and benefactors of Yellowstone National Park. Yellowstone will exist tomorrow as one of America’s most treasured places only if our generation understands its value and makes its preservation our priority.

### Yellowstone Park Foundation

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### Yellowstone Association

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© C. Duckworth

## Bison Management

*Yellowstone's bison are wild and they do not recognize political boundaries. A group of cooperating agencies have agreed to intensively manage bison that leave the park because some bison carry the disease brucellosis. These agencies are committed to reducing the possibility of bison transmitting the disease to domestic livestock.*

The bison management plan is founded on the principle of adaptive management and provides the agencies opportunity to gain knowledge and experience before proceeding to successive steps. The biggest challenge is learning if bison and cattle can be separated successfully outside the park. To meet this challenge, the plan calls for phasing in greater tolerance of bison during winter in special management areas outside Yellowstone National Park. The adaptive management principle allows refinement of the plan as managers and scientists learn more about bison, cattle, and the management of brucellosis.

### The Plan's Objectives

- ◆ Maintain a wild, free-ranging population of bison and its genetic integrity because bison are integral to the proper functioning of Yellowstone's ecosystem. (For example, their grazing and movement patterns benefit grassland plants; bison themselves provide food for predators and scavengers.)
- ◆ Reduce the risk of brucellosis transmission to protect the economic interest and viability of Montana's livestock industry while providing opportunities for bison to use low-elevation winter range outside the park.

### Plan Highlights

- ◆ Phase in greater tolerance of bison outside Yellowstone National Park during winter when cattle are not present.
- ◆ Keep bison and cattle separated outside the park.
- ◆ Vaccinate bison with a safe and effective vaccine to lower brucellosis prevalence in bison and elk.
- ◆ Vaccinate and monitor cattle within five miles of Yellowstone National Park.

The plan calls for testing bison that leave the park; if they test positive for brucellosis antibodies, they are shipped to slaughter. The plan also allows for removing untested bison if the population is above 3,000 animals.

You can view the federal Record of Decision at [www.planning.nps.gov/document/yellbisonrod.pdf](http://www.planning.nps.gov/document/yellbisonrod.pdf) or you can request a copy of the plan by calling the park at 307-344-2159.

**Transportation:** Many vehicles in the park fleet run on alternative fuels, including biodiesel blends, which substantially reduce exhaust emissions. In 2004, the park began using hybrid vehicles, which operate with electricity generated by the gasoline engine and its braking system. These vehicles conserve gas, reduce emissions, and run quietly when using electricity. Toyota USA donated four Prius models, which help educate visitors about the environmental advantages of hybrid vehicles.

**Cleaning:** The Park uses safe, environmentally-friendly cleaning and janitorial products.

**Plastic Lumber:** Decaying wood boardwalks are being replaced with lumber made from recycled plastic, which lasts longer than wood.

**Recycling:** The Park recycles tons of paper, glass, steel, aluminum, plastic, and cardboard each year. In summer, 40 percent of the park's solid waste is composted at a regional composting facility, which was built with area partners.

**Energy Conservation:** The Park has retrofitted many buildings to be more energy efficient. Photovoltaics (cells converting sunlight into electricity) provide electricity at locations in the Lamar Valley and at Lewis Lake.

## Sustainable Design in Park Buildings

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*Yellowstone's Heritage and Research Center, near the North Entrance, will open this year*

Yellowstone National Park strives to incorporate environmentally-sound design and materials in renovations and new buildings. A prime example will be opening this year—the Heritage and Research Center.

Design features include placing museum collection and storage rooms on the cooler north side of the building where less natural light will enter. Offices, walkways, and the library are on the south side and top floor to use natural light more than artificial light. Similarly, the corridors along

the south side are designed to collect solar heat, which will be circulated through the building as needed.

The materials of the building—cement, ceramic tiles, carpeting, and acoustic ceiling tiles—contain partial or total recycled content.

The proposed Old Faithful Visitor Education Center also will be of sustainable design. It will set standards for sustainability, accessibility, esthetic design, and for interpreting complex scientific information to the public.

Coming on the heels of its 100th Anniversary, the Old Faithful Inn is undergoing a major three-year renovation, which will enable guests and visitors to experience the hotel much as it was 100 years ago. The renovation's primary goal is preserving a treasured National Historic Landmark and updating it to meet safety standards and provide more complete compliance with accessibility standards. Because the Inn sits in one of the country's most active seismic zones, it will be fitted with new structural steel components providing strength and resilience to the structure. They will be encased in wood/log sleeves to blend with historic features. Steel reinforced concrete foundations will strengthen the existing stone foundations. The comprehensive infrastructure upgrade will include upgraded mechanical, plumbing and electrical systems and new fire protection systems.

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The renovation is expected to be completed by fall of 2007. During this time, the Inn will have a shortened operating season. In 2005, the Inn is scheduled to open Friday, July 1, and close Sunday, September 11. Other services will be available in the area—see page 15.

Please remember the Inn is a hazardous construction site before it opens to the public. View the work from a safe distance and do not enter the construction area. If you have questions about the project, please call 307-344-2013.

## For more information

[www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell) ◆ *Yellowstone Resources & Issues 2004* (available on the park's website) ◆  
Xanterra Parks & Resorts: 307-344-7311, [www.TravelYellowstone.com](http://www.TravelYellowstone.com)

NPS/CTA Associates

NPS

# Services in the Park

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## Medcor

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## Yellowstone General Stores

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Yellowstone General Stores (YGS) is a division of Delaware North Companies Parks and Resorts, a leading hospitality company managing concession operations in Yosemite National Park, Grand Canyon National Park, Sequoia National Park, and numerous other unique locations in North America. Yellowstone General Stores operates 12 general merchandise stores located throughout Yellowstone National Park.

YGS makes every attempt to cater to all of your needs while in Yellowstone National Park. Many YGS stores offer a book section that carries volumes about geothermal features, geology, Old Faithful, and the park itself, as well as themed postcards, posters, and other items that let you take away more than a memory. Personal memories can be preserved at photo centers, which offer film processing, digital card downloads, and photographic supplies for documenting your trip on film.

YGS' apparel departments provide numerous items bearing designs relating to the themes of the park. Guests can find articles to wear now or give later. Collectors will want to explore the wide spectrum of collectibles and novelties in our souvenir sections.

Campers can find everything needed for the evening's cookout to a snack for the road. YGS fountains provide a variety of foods to satisfy any wilderness hunger. Fisherman will find what fly is hot this week, or a great backpack for their next outing.

Visitors can enjoy a nice respite from travels. Settle down in sitting areas and relax with a nice cup of coffee and read about Yellowstone National Park. Visitors will find our staff to be very helpful in assisting with scenic stops or the latest wildlife sightings.

Yellowstone Adventures, previously known as Canyon Nature, is located in Canyon Village. Yellowstone Adventures offers all the latest in outdoor gear and apparel. Find the top brand gear to keep comfortable in Yellowstone's constantly changing weather.

Yellowstone General Stores is grateful for the opportunity to operate within the wonders of Yellowstone National Park, and feels an obligation to safeguard the beauty for future generations. Help us in walking the "GreenPath." Ask how when you visit any of Yellowstone General Stores locations and visit [www.delawarenorthgreenpath.com](http://www.delawarenorthgreenpath.com).

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### 2004 Recycling by Yellowstone General Stores

Cardboard	149,000 pounds
Glass	41,800 pounds
Plastic #2	10,692 pounds
Plastic #1	7,146 pounds
Aluminum Cans	2,934 pounds

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY: 911

Lodging, dining, camping, activities:  
307-344-7311 or  
TDD 307-344-5395

Park Information:  
307-344-7381

Park Tip Line  
307-344-2132

Call the tip line to report a crime or criminal activity.  
Leave as much detail as you can—who, what, where,  
when. Leave your name and number, or you can remain  
anonymous.

## Yellowstone Credit Card Benefits the Park

The Yellowstone Park Foundation and U.S. Bank have created the Yellowstone Visa® credit card. The card is giving individuals who love Yellowstone the opportunity to help protect and preserve the park.

- ◆ U.S. Bank will donate a portion of every purchase made with the Yellowstone Visa card to the Yellowstone Park Foundation at *no additional cost* to the cardholder.

The money raised from the credit card program will help fund projects that protect the wonders and wildlife of Yellowstone National Park.

- ◆ The Yellowstone Visa card comes with a low introductory APR, no annual fee, your choice of Travel or Cash-back Rewards, and many other benefits.
- ◆ To apply for the card over the phone, or to request an application, call 800-853-5576 and ask for extension 8301.
- ◆ To apply for the Yellowstone Visa online, log onto the Yellowstone Park Foundation's website at [www.ypf.org](http://www.ypf.org).



photo on card by Tom Murphy



# Grand Teton National Park

Spring 2005

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Make time for a visit to our neighbor to the south, Grand Teton National Park. This park offers spectacular scenery and its own campgrounds, exhibits, and activities. Consult the park newspaper, *Teewinot*, for complete information. Newspapers are available at Grand Teton visitor centers and entrance stations.

**Campgrounds**—First come, first served; camping fee is \$14 per night. Advanced reservations not accepted. Campgrounds fill to capacity during July and August. For current status of campgrounds, ask at entrance stations or visitor centers in Grand Teton National Park. Approximate filling times and operating dates are:

Colter Bay (350 sites)	12 NOON	5/27–9/25
Gros Ventre (360 sites)	Evening or may not fill	5/2–10/15
Jenny Lake (49 sites)	8 AM	5/15–10/1
Lizard Creek (60 sites)	2 PM	6/3–9/5
Signal Mountain (86 sites)	10 AM	5/7–10/15

Jenny Lake is open to tents only. Other campgrounds accommodate tents, trailers, and recreational vehicles (30-foot restriction at Signal Mt.). All campgrounds have modern comfort stations, but none have utility hookups. The maximum length of stay is 7 days at Jenny Lake, 14 days at other campgrounds, 30 days total per year.

**Lodging**—Make your reservations directly, using these phone numbers:

Colter Bay Cabins & RV Park (May 27–Sept. 25)	800-628-9988
Dornan's Cabins (all year)	307-733-2522
Flagg Ranch Resort (May 15–Oct. 10)	307-543-2861 or 800-443-2311
Jackson Lake Lodge (May 23–Oct. 3)	800-628-9988
Jenny Lake Lodge (June 3–Oct. 9)	307-733-4647
Signal Mt. Lodge (May 7–Oct. 16)	800-672-6012

Lodging can also be found in communities surrounding Grand Teton.

**Information**—Colter Bay Visitor Center & Indian Arts Museum—May 28–Sept. 5, 8 AM–7 PM; Sept. 5–Oct. 2, 8 AM–5 PM. Information, audiovisual programs, permits, and publication sales. Phone: 307-739-3594.

Flagg Ranch Information Station—June 6–September 5, 9 AM–4 PM.

Jenny Lake Ranger Station—May 14–September 18. Backcountry permits and climbing information. Phone: 307-739-3343.

Jenny Lake Visitor Center—June 6–Sept. 5, 8 AM–7 PM, Sept. 6–Sept. 30, 8 AM–5 PM. Information, publication sales. Phone: 307-739-3392.

Moose Visitor Center—Open year-round, 8 AM–7 PM in summer, 8 AM–5 PM other seasons. Information, audiovisual programs, exhibits, permits, publication sales. Phone: 307-739-3399.

**Telecommunications device for the deaf only (TDD):** 307-739-3400.

**Medical Clinic**—Grand Teton Clinic, located near Jackson Lake Lodge. Daily, May 23–Oct. 3, 10 AM–6 PM. Call 307-543-2514 or after hours 307-733-8002.

**Emergency:** dial 911.

Hiking, sightseeing, boating, floating the Snake River, horseback riding, and fishing are available depending on seasonal conditions. Backcountry camping requires a free permit from the Moose or Colter Bay visitor centers or the Jenny Lake Ranger Station. Boating requires a Grand Teton boating permit, sold at visitor centers. A Wyoming fishing license is required to fish in Grand Teton National Park.

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For more information about Grand Teton National Park: call 307-739-3300 or visit the website, [www.nps.gov/grte](http://www.nps.gov/grte)

## Area Communities

Services are available in communities near Yellowstone. For information, contact these Chambers of Commerce:

Montana		Wyoming	
Big Sky	406-995-3000	Cody	800-393-2639
Billings	800-735-2635	Dubois	307-455-2556
Bozeman	800-228-4224	East Yellowstone/Wapiti Valley	307-587-9595
Cooke City–Silver Gate	406-838-2495	Jackson	307-733-3316
Gardiner	406-848-7971	<b>Idaho</b>	
Livingston	406-222-0850	Idaho Falls	866-365-6943
Red Lodge	888-281-0625	Eastern Idaho Visitor Information Center	800-634-3246
West Yellowstone	406-646-7701		

## Nearby Public Lands

Big Hole National Battlefield	406-689-3155	Gallatin National Forest	406-587-6701	Shoshone National Forest	307-527-6241
Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area	406-666-2412	Glacier National Park	406-888-7800	Virginia City National Historic Site	406-843-5247
Bridger–Teton National Forest	307-739-5500	Grant–Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site	406-846-3388		
Caribou–Targhee National Forest	208-624-3151	Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument	406-638-2621		

Xanterra

Visitors’ Guide to Accessible Features in Yellowstone National Park

Yellowstone National Park is improving accessibility for all visitors. Most vault toilets in the picnic areas and campgrounds are accessible. Some self-guiding boardwalk trails, picnic tables, campground sites, fishing areas, and backcountry campsites are also accessible.

For more details, ask for the *Visitor’s Guide to Wheelchair Accessible Features in Yellowstone National Park*, available free at all entrance stations, visitor centers, and on the park’s website.

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For more information: Park Accessibility Coordinator  
P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190  
307-344-2017  
TDD only (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf)  
307-344-2386  
[www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell)



NPS

Yellowstone Park Service Stations

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Yellowstone Park Service Stations has been serving Yellowstone visitors since 1947. We offer quality petroleum products at seven service stations located throughout Yellowstone. See page 15 for dates of operation for YPSS stations.

Tires • Batteries • Automobile Accessories

LP Gas is available at Fishing Bridge and Grant Village.  
Towing and repair services are available at Old Faithful, Grant Village, Fishing Bridge, and Canyon.

Conoco, Master Card, Visa, Discover, and American Express credit cards are accepted.

YPSS Celebrates Yellowstone Explorers of Yesteryear and Today

*One of the most interesting visitors to the Yellowstone area in 1865 was Father Francis Xavier Kuppens, a Belgian priest of the Jesuit Order; who offered this recollection 32 years later:*

About the years 1865-66 I was stationed at the old Mission of St. Peter’s on the Missouri River near the mouth of Sun River. A great part of that winter and spring I spent with the Pigeon [Piegan] Indians roaming from place to place south . . . It was while leading this nomad life that I first heard of the Yellowstone. Many an evening in the tent of Baptiste Champagne or Chief Big Lake the conversation, what little there was of it, turned on the beauties of that wonderful spot. I do not know that the narrator always adhered strictly to facts, but making allowance for fervid imagination there was

sufficient in the tale to excite my curiosity and awaken in me a strong desire to see for myself this enchanted if not enchanting land. In the spring with a small party of Indians hunting buffalo, I persuaded a few young men to show me the wonderland of which they had talked so much. Thus I got my first sight of the Yellowstone. I shall not attempt to describe it, that has been done by many abler pens than mine; but you may be sure that before leaving I saw the chief attraction—the Grand Cañon, hot and cold geysers, variegated layers of rock, the Fire Hole, etc. I was very much impressed with the wild grandeur of the scenery.

*May your wanderings in and reflections of Yellowstone bring you the simple peace and lasting memories experienced and recorded by Father Kuppens.*



# Lodging, Food, Gas, Activities

Spring 2005

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	Bridge Bay	Canyon Village	Fishing Bridge	Grant Village	Lake Village	Mammoth Hot Springs	Old Faithful	Tower/ Roosevelt
 Medical clinic					May 19–Sept. 30 See page 14.	Year-round. See page 14.	May 6–Oct. 23 See page 14.	
 Service station		Gas: May 6–Oct. 16 Repairs: May 27–Sept. 5 Wrecker: May 20–Oct. 16	Gas: May 21–Oct. 3 Repairs: May 28–Sept. 6 Wrecker: May 28–Sept. 6 LP Gas: May 21–Sept. 20	Gas: May 20–Sept. 12 Repairs: May 27–Sept. 5 Wrecker: May 27–Sept. 5 LP Gas: May 20–Sept. 12		May 6–Oct. 10	Lower: June 3–Sept. 11 Upper: April 22–Nov. 6 Wrecker: May 20–Oct. 16 Repairs: May 27–Aug. 22	June 10–Sept. 5
 General Store: <i>grocery, restaurant, ice cream, souvenirs, camping &amp; fishing gear</i>		May 20–Sept. 28 (also has ATM, espresso, jewelry)	May 16–Oct. 2 (also has ATM, photo processing, jewelry)	May 27–Sept. 25 (also has ATM, jewelry)	May 23–Oct. 3	Year round (no restaurant)	Lower: June 3–Sept. 11 Upper: May 6–Oct. 16 (also photo processing)	Tower: May 24–Sept. 18 (no restaurant)
 Outdoor recreation goods, <i>snacks, souvenirs, fast food</i>	May 28–Sept. 11	Yellowstone Adventures Apr. 22–Oct. 23						
 Mini Store: <i>groceries, souvenirs, some camping &amp; fishing gear</i>			RV Park May 20–Oct. 2	May 16–Oct. 2				Roosevelt June 10–Sept. 5
 Gift shop <i>(in lodging facilities)</i>		Canyon Lodge June 3–Sept. 18		Grant Village May 27–Oct. 2	Lake Yellowstone Hotel May 20–Oct. 10	Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel May 6–Oct. 16	Old Faithful Inn July 1–Sept. 11 Old Faithful Snow Lodge April 22–Nov. 6 Old Faithful Lodge May 6–Oct. 2	Roosevelt Lodge June 10–Sept. 5
 Hotel		Canyon Lodge June 3–Sept. 18		Grant Village May 27–Oct. 2	Lake Yellowstone Hotel May 20–Oct. 10	Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel May 13–Oct. 16	Old Faithful Inn July 1–Sept. 11 Old Faithful Snow Lodge May 6–Oct. 23	Roosevelt Lodge June 10–Sept. 5
 Cabins		Canyon Lodge June 3–Sept. 18			Lake Lodge June 10–Sept. 25 Lake Yell. Hotel May 20–Oct. 10	Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel May 13–Oct. 16	Old Faithful Lodge May 6–Oct. 2 Old Faithful Snow Lodge May 6–Oct. 23	Roosevelt Lodge June 10–Sept. 5
 Restaurant <i>(see also General Store)</i>		Canyon Lodge June 3–Sept. 18		Grant Village May 27–Oct. 2 Lake House at Grant May 27–Sept. 25	Lake Yellowstone Hotel May 20–Oct. 10	Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel May 13–Oct. 16	Old Faithful Inn July 1–Sept. 11 Old Faithful Snow Lodge May 6–Oct. 23	
 Cafeteria		Canyon Lodge June 3–Sept. 18			Lake Lodge June 10–Sept. 25		Old Faithful Lodge May 6–Oct. 2	
 Snacks, light meals, fast food <i>(see also stores)</i>		Picnic Shop June 3–Sept. 18			Lake Yellowstone Hotel Deli: May 20–Oct. 10	Terrace Grill May 13–Oct. 16	Old Faithful Inn, Bear Paw Snack Shop July 1–Sept. 11 Old Faithful Snow Lodge, Geyser Grill April 22–Nov. 6 Old Faithful Lodge Bake Shop May 6–Oct. 2	
 Campground <i>Details on p. 6</i>	May 27–Sept. 18	June 10–Sept. 11 (showers & laundry)	RV Park (hard-sided units; showers & laundry) 5/20–10/2	June 21–Oct. 2 (showers & laundry)		All year	nearest: Madison May 6–Oct. 30	Tower May 20–Sept. 26
 Showers		at campground	at RV park	at campground		Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel May 13–Oct. 16	Old Faithful Lodge May 6–Oct. 2	Roosevelt Lodge June 10–Sept. 5
 Marina & boat tours	Dock rental May 27–Sept. 18							
 Trail rides		June 18–Sept. 3				May 13–Sept. 18		June 10–Sept. 4 Trail & Stagecoach
 Recycling available	At marina.	At campground.	At general store.	At campground.		At campground.		Near service station.

**ATM** 24-hour cash available at Yellowstone General Stores at Canyon, Fishing Bridge, Grant, Mammoth, and Old Faithful Basin Upper; and at Canyon Lodge, Lake Yellowstone Hotel, Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, Old Faithful Inn, and Old Faithful Snow Lodge. CIRRUS and PLUS network.

**Backcountry Tours** Write to Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call the National Park Service, 307-344-7381, for a list of certified outfitters.

**Diesel Fuel** Available at all service stations except at Old Faithful Upper and Tower.

**Guided Tours** The Yellowstone Association Institute and Xanterra Parks & Resorts offer guided tours throughout the park. See pages 5 & 14.

**Reservations** For lodging, dining, camping, and activity reservations, call Xanterra Parks & Resorts®, 307-344-7311 or TDD 307-344-5395. You can also make reservations at any lodging front desk or activities desk.  
\*Dinner reservations required at Grant Village Restaurant, Lake Yellowstone Hotel Dining Room, Old Faithful Inn Dining Room.

**Worship Services** Worship services take place in the park and in communities adjacent to the park, and include most major denominations and interdenominational services during the summer months. Schedules available on bulletin boards at campgrounds and visitor centers.



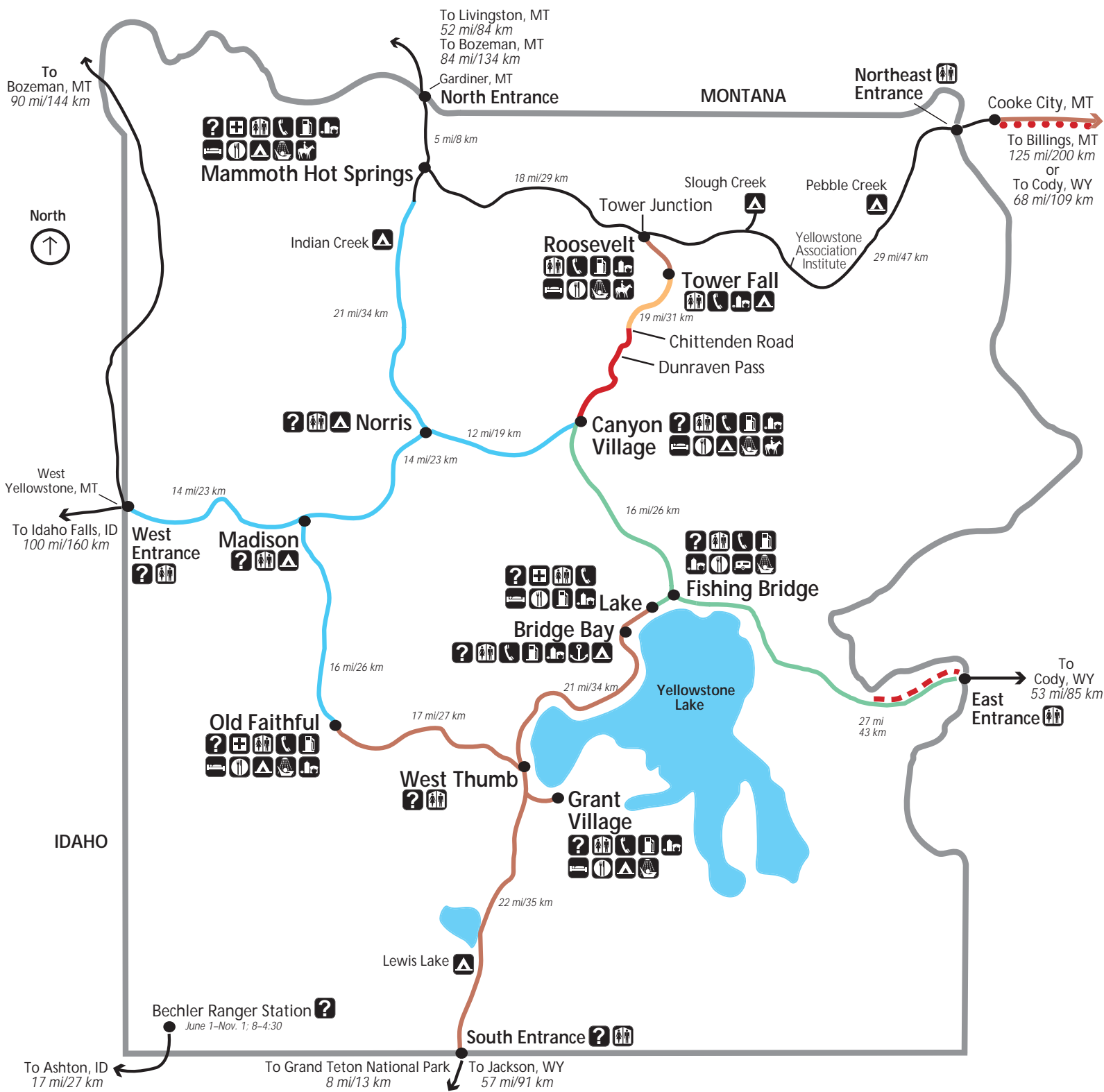
**What You Can Recycle in Yellowstone:** glass, cans, paper, cardboard, plastic bottles with narrow necks, office paper, magazines. See last line of chart above for most locations.

# YELLOWSTONE

- Visitor center or information station
- Medical clinic
- Restrooms
- Telephone
- Service station
- General Store, Mini Store, Gift Shop
- Lodging
- Food
- Campground
- Camping: hard-sided units only
- Showers
- Marina
- Trail rides

SPEED KILLS more than 100 bears elk bison deer moose wolves each year

**SLOW DOWN and save a life**



Detailed information about services on page 15.

## Road Openings & Construction

	Open year-round	Gardiner to Cooke City		Closed until mid to late August:
	April 22	Mammoth & West Entrance to Old Faithful; Norris to Canyon		Grand Loop Road from Canyon Junction to Chittenden Road, including Dunraven Pass
	May 6	Canyon to Lake to East Entrance		East Entrance
	May 13	Old Faithful to South Entrance & Lake to West Thumb (earlier if conditions allow) & Tower Junction to Tower Fall, Cooke City to Chief Joseph Scenic Highway (if conditions allow)		Opens May 6 (if conditions allow) From opening through October: OPEN 8 AM–8 PM CLOSED 8 PM–8 AM
	May 27	Beartooth Pass (if conditions allow); Tower Fall to Chittenden Road (if conditions allow)		Beartooth Highway, For construction updates on this highway only, call 888-285-4636.

**ROAD CONSTRUCTION**  
locations & schedules can change

**UPDATES**  
at  
visitor centers

[www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell) • [www.YellowstoneAssociation.org](http://www.YellowstoneAssociation.org) • [www.TravelYellowstone.com](http://www.TravelYellowstone.com)

This map is courtesy of ConocoPhillips—providing petroleum products since 1917 . . .

All service stations in Yellowstone offer environmentally sensitive fuels, specially formulated by ConocoPhillips to reduce hydrocarbon emissions and decrease other pollution-related problems.

Park Information: 307-344-7381 (TDD: 307-344-2386) • Emergency—Dial 911 • Road updates: 307-344-2117